

The House meets at 6:00 p.m. pursuant to adjournment and is called to order by Speaker Black.

The following prayer is offered by the Reverend Jim Lambeth, House Chaplain:

"God of creation and re-creation:

"How You shower us with beauty in our State. What a wonderful world You have made! We remember, O God, that when we human beings were placed in the middle of Your garden we were put here to till and keep Your good creation, living together in community. Governments and laws and regulations are our attempt to do that. Guide these good women and men, O God, that the work they accomplish here may bless You, may bless the citizens of our State, and may bless these Representatives with a sense of serving You in their public service.

"Especially tonight, we remember Representative Bonner's wife as she prepares for surgery.

"In your giving name we pray. Amen."

Speaker Black leads the Body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Representative Culpepper, for the Committee on Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House, reports the Journal of April 24 has been examined and found correct. Upon his motion, the Journal is approved as written.

A leave of absence is granted Representative McComas for today.

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Michael F. Easley
Governor

April 28, 2003